

# THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

Whole No. 1234.

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**FLIKE MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.**—The Trustees of the Fluke Fund, at the annual meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society, held at Providence, June 25th, 1851, announced that the premium of fifty dollars, offered by them in 1850, for the best dissertation on the subject of—“Homeopathy so called, its history and refutation,” had been awarded to the author of the dissertation bearing the motto—“Folly in wisdom hatched, Hith wisdom's warrant and the help of school.”

—Love's Labor Lost.

And upon breaking the seal of the accompanying packet they learn that the successful competitor was WORCESTER HOOKE, M.D., of Norwich, Conn. They propose the following subjects for 1852.

No. 1. Displacements of the uterus, their local and constitutional effects, and best mode of treatment.

No. 2. “Gastro-Enteric Disease,” its nature, complications and best mode of treatment.

For the best dissertation on each of these subjects should an award be made, the Trustees will pay the sum of fifty dollars.

Every competitor for a premium is expected to conform to the following regulations, viz.:—

To forward to the Trustees on or before the 10th of May, A.D. 1852, free of all expense, a copy of his dissertation with a motto written thereupon, and also accompanying a sealed packet, having the same motto written thereon outside, and his name and place of residence within.

Previously to receiving the premium awarded, the author of the successful dissertation must transfer to the Trustees all his right, title and interest in and to the same, for the use, benefit and behoof of the Fluke Fund.

The letters accompanying the unsuccessful dissertations, will be destroyed by the Trustees unopened, and the dissertations may be procured by their respective authors or the Trustees to whom they were directed, if application be made thereto within three months.

HIRAM ALLEN, of Cumberland,  
WILLIAM A. SHAW, of North Kingstown,  
JOSEPH MAURAN, of Providence,  
Trustees of the Fluke Fund.

S. A. ARNOLD, Secretary.  
Providence, Sept. 22, 1851. Oct. 1-6w.

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Sept. 10.—11 160 Washington Street.

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**JOHN C. DALTON,** Jr., M.D., Professor of Physiology of the Buffalo Medical College, Instructor in Physiology and Microscopy.

Catalogues containing the plan and objects of the School, may be had on application at the bookstore of George W. Briggs, 375 Washington street, or in the room of the School at the bookstore of Ticknor, Reed & Fields, corner of Washington and School streets; and at Joseph Burnett's, Apothecary, 32 Tremont Row.

**WINSLOW LEWIS,** President.  
Boston, Aug. 20, 1851.

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C. T. TRAFTON.

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LUTHER ATWOOD.  
June 12, 1851.

June 18—tf.

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Nov. 13.

**UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI.**—The First Session of this University will open on the 16th October next.

Medical Department.

**JOSEPH N. McDOWELL,** M.D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, and of Clinical Surgery.

**RICHARD F. BARRET,** M.D., Prof. of Physiology and of Materia Medica.

**JOHN B. JOHNSON,** M.D., Prof. of Clinical Medicine and Pathological Anatomy.

**ABNER HORTON,** M.D., Prof. of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.

**ABRAHAM MOORE,** M.D., Prof. of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.

**JOSEPH N. McDOWELL,** M.D., Prof. of General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.

**JOHN S. MOORE,** M.D., Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.

**JOHN HODOPEN,** M.D., Adjunct Prof. of Surgery and Demonstrator of Anatomy.

**I. T. PINE,** M.D., Adjunct Prof. of Anatomy, and Prosector.

**PETER MARSH,** Curator.

**HENRY WILLIAMS,** Janitor.

Admission cost of Tickets, \$105. Graduation fee, \$20. Matriculation fee, \$1. Good boarding from \$2 to \$3 per week.

For further information address the Dean of the Faculty, or call upon him at his office, No. 44 Fourth street, under the Planter's House.

**JOHN S. MOORE,** M.D., *Dean.*

May 31—1L  
*St. Louis, May 10, 1851*

**UNIVERSITY OF NASHVILLE.**—*Medical Department.*—The First Annual Course of Lectures in the University will commence on the first Monday of November next, and continue till the first of the ensuing March.

**PAUL F. EVEL,** M.D., Professor of Surgical Anatomy and Clinical Surgery.

**JOHN M. WATSON,** M.D., Prof. of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.

**A. H. BUCHANAN,** M.D., Prof. of Surgery.

**W. K. BOWLING,** M.D., Prof. of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine.

**C. H. WINSTON,** M.D., Prof. of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine.

**ROBERT M. PORTER,** M.D., Prof. of Anatomy and Physiology.

**J. BERRIES LINSDLEY,** M.D., Prof. of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

**WILLIAM T. BRIGGS,** M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

The Anatomical rooms will be open for students, on the first Monday of October.

First year Prof. \$125. Matriculation ticket, \$5. Dissection ticket, \$10. Graduation fee, \$55.

Good board can be obtained in the city, at from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week. Further information may be obtained by addressing the Dean.

**J. B. LINSDLEY,** M.D.,  
*Dean of the Faculty.*

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**R. R. PHILBRICK,** M.D.,  
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July 15

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**PREPARATIONS OF SILVER.**—Nitrate in Crystals, Oxide, Iodide and Chloride, manufactured and for sale at 160 Washington street, Boston, by **PHILBRICK & TRAFTON, CHEMISTS,** Nov. 13.

**R. OBINSON'S PATENT PESSARY**—may be obtained, Wholesale and Retail, of Aaron F. Richardson, M.D., No. 36 Green street, Boston.

May 29—1L

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BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

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REDUCTION OF THE FEMUR WHEN DISLOCATED ON THE DORSUM ILLI.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR.—Some weeks since I noticed an article in your Journal, the author of which claimed to have discovered a new method of reducing a dislocation of the femur on the dorsum illi. Knowing, as I did, how familiar this so-called original method was to many of our profession, I was not at all surprised to find, in the Journal of the week after, a communication denying the originality of the method. Having in my possession "Smith's Medical and Surgical Memoirs," in which, as it appears to me, this new method is fully explained, and also having myself reduced two dislocated femurs on this same principle, I think I can show conclusively the futility of the claims of the author of the first-mentioned article to originality. The gentleman says—to use his own words—that "the announcement of a proposition so novel, so ultra, and contradictory to the teachings of all standard writers on surgery for the last hundred years," exposes him to the sneers of some, and to the pity of others.

We will immediately show that it is *not* contradictory to the teachings of all standard writers on surgery. Why, in his list of past and present eminent medical men, did the gentleman omit the name of Nathan Smith? Had he attended the lectures of Professor Smith in Dartmouth College, within a few miles of which, I am informed, the gentleman himself is employed in teaching surgery, he would have heard the method, which he claims as original, demonstrated. Dr. Nathan Smith taught this method of reducing a dislocated femur, from 1804 to the time of his death in 1829, both in Dartmouth and Yale Colleges. I will now make some extracts from Smith's Medical and Surgical Memoirs, published in 1831, to show that his method is the same as the one lately recommended to your notice. In an article in this volume, the writer, Dr. N. R. Smith, of Baltimore, says—"The principles which, in the following pages, I shall endeavor to establish, relative to the reduction of the dislocated os femoris, were, in part, derived from my father's lectures." Some pages further on, he says—"By grasping the distal extremity of the dislocated bone, and making bending movements like those which violence employs in producing dislocations, we have it

in our power to call into exercise, with great effect, certain muscles attached to the bone. We do this with great mechanical advantage, because we use the bone as a lever, on the long arm of which we impress our force. \* \* \* Thus, if the hip be dislocated upward and backward, and we grasp the knee and powerfully abduct the member, we put powerfully on the stretch the abductor muscles. The power which we exercise on them is very great, because the thigh bone is the long lever which multiplies the force. These muscles, then, will be called into the same kind of powerful, convulsive action, which occurs in those muscles that cause the dislocation. But now the muscles drag the head of the bone directly towards its natural position."

And again he says—"Prof. Nathan Smith used to relate, in his surgical lectures, a case of dislocation of the os femoris on the dorsum ilii, in which he promptly succeeded, by the mere force of hands, in effecting the reduction. Notes of this case unfortunately I am not able to discover among his papers. The principal facts, however, are fresh in my memory, and will undoubtedly be borne in mind by many who have listened to his instructions. After attempting the ordinary methods by extension, in vain, he bent the leg upon the knee, seized the leg, and using it as a lever, rotated the thigh a little outward. Then he gently abducted the thigh, and lastly flexed it freely on the pelvis, by carrying the knee towards the face of the patient. These movements instantly succeeded, and with but little effort of strength. A medical gentleman of Massachusetts, who had been a pupil of my father, saw a similar case of dislocation, practised the same method, and succeeded with equal facility. A letter from him to Prof. Smith, detailing the particulars of the case, I once saw, but unfortunately it cannot now be found." Again, in this same article, it is stated that Prof. Physick reduced a dislocation of the femur directly backward, after very powerful efforts had been made to effect the reduction by extension, by simply abducting the thigh.

Having given the preceding extracts to show the principles of Dr. Smith's method, I will now, by making a few quotations from the article in your Journal, show that the method therein advocated is the same formerly practised and taught by Dr. N. Smith. The author, in describing his *discovery*, says—"It will be perceived, that by this mode of operating, we make a *lever* of the shaft or bone of the femur, and a fulcrum of the edge of the pelvis—and by this means lift or dislodge the head of the bone—while the abductor muscles draw it downward and inward, making it, as it were, *back into* its place, through the rent of the capsular ligament." In describing a case he says—"I then, as already described, seized the knee with one hand, the ankle with the other, flexed the leg on the thigh, the thigh on the pelvis, carrying it *inward and over the sound limb*—then upward over the abdomen, till the thigh was nearly parallel with the right side—then rotated the heel inward, carried the foot over the sound thigh, and the knee outward, when, by a gentle oscillation and rotation of the thigh, the head slipped into the socket." If any one will take the trouble to compare these extracts with those taken from Smith's Medical and Surgical Memoirs, I think he cannot fail to see that they describe in *substance* one and the same thing.

I presume that sufficient has been said to satisfy your readers of the truth of my assertion. I will, however, before closing this article, mention, as briefly as possible, two cases of dislocation of the os femoris on the dorsum ilii, which occurred in my own practice, and which I reduced in the above-mentioned manner.

CASE I.—Some time in 1836, I was summoned to visit Josiah Atkins, of East Granville, who, by falling forward with great violence, from a wagon, and receiving the wagon load of bags of grain upon his back, not only badly fractured his skull which came in contact with a rock, but also dislocated his os femoris upon the dorsum ilii. The patient presenting every symptom of pressure on the brain, I immediately applied the trephine, and elevated the depressed portion of the skull. This operation having resulted favorably, the next day I reduced the dislocation thus. The patient having been firmly secured upon a table, standing on the well side I took hold of the knee with my left hand, and grasped the ankle with my right. Then, flexing the leg on the thigh to about a right angle, by means of the leg as a lever, I rotated the femur on its axis to loosen the head of the bone, at the same time flexing steadily and strongly the thigh upon the body. This, my first attempt at reducing a dislocated thigh, was immediately successful. The patient is still living.

CASE II.—Oct. 9th, 1844, I was called to visit a Mr. McGregory, in West Springfield, who had dislocated his thigh on the dorsum ilii. I reduced the dislocation in the same manner as in the first case, by using slight extension, and flexing and rotating the thigh as above described.

Allow me, in conclusion, to refer any of your readers who may desire further information on this subject, to Smith's Medical and Surgical Memoirs, where they will find a very full and accurate description of this method of reducing a dislocated os femoris, and also three lithographs showing the operation at different stages of its progress.

Springfield, Mass., Sept. 23d, 1851.

JAMES M. SMITH, M.D.

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#### THE HOSPITALS OF PARIS.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

By a decree of January 10th, 1849, everything relating to public assistance has been placed under a special board, or administration, called *Administration Generale de l'Assistance Publique à Paris*. It is under the control of the Minister of the Interior, and is managed by a director and a council of twenty members. The presidents are prefects of the Seine and of Police. The change effected at that date had but little to do with the immediate arrangements of the hospitals themselves. This administration is confined to civil hospitals. The military establishment is entirely distinct, and under the military administration.

Applications for admission into the hospitals are received at the *Bureau Central d'Administration*, but any physician or surgeon can receive a patient into his wards at the time of his regular visits; and the rule is not so construed as to prevent the admission of patients by the internees

at any time in cases of emergency. The *Bureau Central d'Administration* is composed of twelve physicians, and six surgeons, who relieve each other by rotation. From this body the hospital physicians and surgeons are selected when vacancies occur. They are elected for five years, but their appointments are always renewed. No one can obtain a place at the hospitals until he has first been elected to the *Bureau Central*. This board indicates the hospital to which the patient may be admitted; they give gratuitous advice to the indigent, and children are vaccinated here on Thursdays and Sundays, at certain hours. To secure the practice of vaccination, and its consequent protection, three francs are paid to the parents for every child vaccinated, and children that have not been vaccinated are excluded from the free schools of Paris.

The civil hospitals of Paris are divided into three classes, viz., 1st, *general hospitals*; 2d, *special hospitals*; and 3d, *hospices*, or institutions similar to our almshouses. These institutions have a uniform arrangement of officers, which consist of—1st, *a director*. 2d, *surgeons and physicians*, who are obliged to make a daily morning visit to their patients. They are allowed two or more *internes* and *externes*, according to the extent of their service, one *student of pharmacy*, a *nurse* for each ward, and a *sister of charity* for each service, male or female. To be eligible a physician must be 35, and a surgeon 30 years of age. Their salary varies from 600 to 1800 francs, according to the time they have been in the service of the administration. 3d, *apothecaries*. 4th, *internes*, or resident physicians. 5th, *externes*, or dressers. 6th, *students of pharmacy*. All the principals in each department are elected by concours. The sisters of charity are attached to some religious society. They profess to have retired from the world for the purpose of devoting their time to acts of benevolence. They are found in nearly all the hospitals of Paris, civil and military, where they officiate in the capacity of nurses to the sick and wounded. There is no extent of care for these miserable inmates that they are not ready to assume, and in many instances they act the part of relatives to the sick and dying. I have more than once seen the good sister manifest all the tender interest for the dying stranger that could be expected from a sister indeed. To them is entrusted the whole care of the wards in the absence of their medical attendant.

The number of hospitals under the direction and care of the council general of public assistance is *twenty-six*. A new establishment was commenced under the reign and auspices of Louis Philippe, which was to have borne his name, but which is changed to *Hopital de la République*. When completed, this will be the largest hospital in Paris, and is to receive the patients of Hotel Dieu, while that pile of buildings is undergoing repairs.

1. The *general hospitals* are open to those persons whose diseases do not render treatment at special hospitals more proper. Of these the Hotel Dieu and La Charité are the principal.

2. *Special hospitals* are appropriated to patients afflicted with particular diseases, such as scrofula, syphilis, cutaneous and mental diseases.

3. *Hospices*, or almshouses. It appears from the last returns that the

hospitals and hospices of Paris support each year (in round numbers) 12,000 aged and infirm men and women, and that they receive annually 80,000 patients, of whom 5,200 are always under care or treatment. Of children, there are yearly received 4,600, and 12,000 are always out at nurse in the country ; 500 are apprenticed yearly. Besides this, the hospital directors grant relief yearly to 80,000 indigent persons. The number of beds in the hospitals is 6,574, and it is seldom that one remains a day unoccupied.

There is much system and economy in the management of the various hospitals. The bread used in all the hospitals of Paris is furnished from an establishment situated in the Place Scipion, on the south side of the city, adjoining Clamart. Enough is supplied every morning for about 12,000 persons. All employed in the hospitals receive their supply from here, as well as patients. The annual consumption of bread and flour amounts to nearly 8,000,000 pounds. The flour from which this bread is made, also the wine used, is admitted into Paris free from the octroi or city duties. The wine is purchased in large lots on advantageous terms, and is deposited in vaults under the bureau central, from which place it is distributed to the various hospitals. The annual quantity consumed amounts to about 1,500,000 quarts. The difference in the kind of stimulants used in the French and British hospitals is quite apparent. In England porter is the principal stimulant. I could not but think that a little less of these articles in European hospitals would do quite as well.

Among the special hospitals is one appropriated to the treatment of diseases of children—*Hôpital des Enfants Malades*. The number of beds in this hospital is about 600, all of which are at this time occupied. I am told that so great is the care bestowed by the officers and other attendants at this establishment, that many persons seek admission for their children who would not otherwise do so. It is quite novel to see so much order prevail in an establishment appropriated to the treatment of such numbers of young persons. So assiduous is the care of the sisters here, that but little more confusion prevails, than in wards occupied by adults. The grounds are spacious ; the buildings surround a large space, which is planted with trees and shrubs, and in which various appliances for recreation are erected.

*Hôpital St. Louis* is the largest of the special hospitals. It is mainly appropriated to the treatment of cutaneous diseases and scrofula, but it receives acute diseases and surgical cases. A large number of cholera patients were treated at this hospital. The bathing apparatus is here most ample. It has a vapor bath so arranged as to serve eight persons at the same time in distinct entries. More than 25,000 persons availed themselves of these baths during the last season.

The *Hôpitals du Midi* and *Lourense* are appropriated to the treatment of syphilis. The former for males and the latter for females. Each has 300 beds, and always full.

The *Salpêtrière* may be ranked among the hospices. These immense buildings occupy the former site of a saltpetre manufactory. The hospital is 1680 feet in length and 1164 in breadth. It is now exclusively

appropriated to the reception of women, who are divided into three classes—1st, reposantes, or aged officials of the hospitals; 2d, indigent persons, divided into valid inmates, or afflicted by old age only—infirm, decrepit and incurable patients; 3d, epileptic persons and lunatics. The total number of beds is 4,438, the municipal council having recently suppressed 500 of them in order to apply the means resulting therefrom in a more economical form to out-door relief.

The number of beds occupied by lunatics, idiots or epileptic patients, is 1,470. The lunatics, of which three fifths are dangerously mad, are kept in separate infirmaries, and treated with the greatest care and attention. Sewing is encouraged among them to such an extent, that in one month 48,000 military sacs are said to have been completed. The harmless are allowed to amuse themselves in various ways; the principal occupation in which they are encouraged is gardening, the salutary effects of which are supposed to favor their recovery.

I do not pretend to have given you a description of all the hospitals of Paris, but have selected the principal ones, and such as will serve as an index to the remainder.

C. B. CHAPMAN.

*Paris, August, 1851.*

#### STRICTURE OF OESOPHAGUS.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR.—If you deem the following account of a somewhat rare disease, worthy of a place in your Journal, you will please insert it. To me it has been a very interesting case. Other members of the profession have requested me to communicate it to the Journal, and I accordingly accede to their wishes.

In September, 1850, I was consulted by Mrs. W. concerning a trouble about her throat, attended at times with considerable difficulty of deglutition. On examination, discovered general inflammation of mucous membrane of fauces. Applied nit. arg. in sol.; also ordered an astringent gargle—which treatment gave relief. In October was called again for the same difficulty. Treatment as before, with the same result.

She was again attacked in January, 1851, with inability to swallow, and what appeared to be a depression, or “run-down” state of the system. She had been subject to considerable mental anxiety; had worked very hard, and was not over careful about exposure to cold. She was occasionally able to swallow fluids—and then could not do so for some days. Treatment—alteratives, tonics, nervines, &c.; nit. arg. in sol. to throat. Introduced a probang into the stomach. Found stricture a few inches from the commencement of the oesophagus, not, however, very severe. Introduced the probang at different times. In a few weeks, after being reduced somewhat, she became quite well, and gained flesh and strength, but was not able to swallow much, except semi-fluid diet.

She was again attacked in June. I was from home. Dr. Jenkins was called, and subsequently Dr. Shove in consultation. I was again called August 15th. Found her exceedingly emaciated; had not swal-

lowed for several days. Introduced the probang. Found very considerable difficulty in the passage of it to the stomach. After overcoming, by the most careful manipulation, the resistance at one point, the ball was carried along one and a half or two inches, when it encountered another strictured place ; which led me to diagnose—*ulceration of œsophagus*, about two inches in length, the hardened edges of which produced stricture. After the introduction of the probang, she would not consent to my passing the œsophageal tube down to the stomach, to give her nourishment, until twelve days had elapsed since swallowing. In the mean time she took frequent injections of beef tea, which supported her remarkably. She at length consented to have the tube introduced, which was accordingly done, and a small quantity of fluid was passed into the stomach. After a few times, the stomach would bear a larger quantity without producing any burning feeling or uneasiness of any kind. She improved rapidly in a few days, and had concluded she would rather live than die ; but she was suddenly seized with severe coughing, and vomited a considerable quantity of blood. She died in about forty-eight hours after.

Seventeen hours after death, I made an examination, assisted by Drs. Jenkins and Shove. About two and a half inches of the middle portion of the œsophagus was found in a state of what appeared to be scirrhous ulceration—the canal contracted exceedingly. A small abscess had formed, uniting the œsophagus with the base of the lung, producing severe disease of the bronchial tubes of that part. The parts were so softened that it was impossible to dissect the œsophagus from its attachments to the lungs, as the slightest force was sufficient to tear the free portion of the œsophagus from the adhering part.

The stomach was found in a remarkably healthy condition, which accounted for her improving so rapidly when food was introduced into the stomach.

PETER PINEO.

Barnstable, Mass., Sept. 27th, 1851.

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#### ON THE RECIPROCAL AGENCIES OF MIND AND MATTER.

[Continued from page 174.]

I WILL now take a cursory view, however, of the effects of one or two of the passions. I have just observed that Fear, or rather sudden fright, is a frequent exciting cause of epilepsy. Its immediate operation is to paralyze the body, and is therefore precisely opposite to the influence of Rage or violent anger. The respiratory nerves are instantly affected, causing embarrassment in breathing, and accelerated action of the heart, attended with diminution of its momentum, and retardation of the returning venous blood ; thus giving rise to the pallor so notoriously characteristic of the passion. There is a temporary congestion, consequently, in the heart and lungs, and exhaustion of nervous power to such an extent that the limbs totter and shake, and scarcely a muscle but participates in the asthenia ; sometimes (as I have already observed) the exhaustion of the vis-nervosa at once annihilating existence. It is a fertile

source also of insanity, as well as of nervous disease. I was consulted a few weeks since in the case of a young lady who was affected with partial hemiplegia and chorea, from being frightened by a crazy man, who forced himself into the house after dark ; but she soon recovered. There is a case of fatuity at this time at High Beach, in one of the asylums which I visit, owing to the patient being frightened at school by a mock trial of him for stealing a knife from one of his school-fellows : they pretended that they were going to hang him ; he escaped, and hid himself for some hours in a ditch, where he was found idiotic. Numberless similar instances might be adduced, resulting from fancied apparitions, or other causes of terror and surprise.

Look, again, at the consequences of *Grief* on the animal system. We have mentioned one of these in the beginning of my lecture, viz., carcinoma ; and many more sad consequences might be enumerated. It tends, when inordinate, to determination of blood to the brain ; it is a not unfrequent cause of insanity ; and would be still more so, did not nature proffer the relief of tears. The countenance at once betrays it ; the *depressor anguli oris* is of itself so characteristic of mental sorrow that the artist can instantly portray it, and change the representation of laughter into that of weeping by a mere stroke of his pencil, calling that muscle into play. The common phrase of being "down in the mouth," no doubt takes its origin from the action of this muscle. General languor, moreover, prevails ; for the exhaustion of nervous energy which follows fast on the agitation and restlessness of sorrow depresses the whole frame, and leaves it in a state of lassitude and inertia. A general stupefaction of the intellect mostly ensues, all the vivid perceptions which might previously have reigned being absorbed or concentrated in the predominant affliction. The expression of countenance is painfully interesting, and his must be a flinty heart in which a feeling of commiseration and sympathy is not excited on witnessing it. All the harsher emotions of the countenance are lost and melted down ; and woman is said to be more radiant through the mist of sorrow—

" So properly the object of affliction,  
That Heav'n is pleased to make distress become her,  
And dresses her most amiably in tears."

That the heart may become structurally affected by the continuance of grief may be asserted with little fear of contradiction ; or little faith can be reposed in the writings of Corvisart and others, who have studied its pathology with attention. What is the simple and constant concomitant act of sighing but the comparative inertness of the heart's action, and the consequent impulse of congested lungs to

" Cleanse the fraught bosom of that perilous stuff  
That weighs upon the heart."

Sir Charles Bell has beautifully described all the minutiae, and explained them admirably, in his "*Anatomy of Expression*"—a work which merits a place in every library of science and interest, maugre a few little errors of opinion. He carries on his illustration even in the brute creation, and demonstrates by close analogy that though they have

not, strictly speaking, *reason* for their guide, they have instinct—nerves, and feelings, and emotions, and passions, in common with ourselves, and so verifies the poet's humiliating assertion, that

" Man differs more from man than man from beast."

The opposite excitement—viz., that of intense *Joy*—has also a most powerful effect on the system, and is, perhaps, more to be dreaded in its consequences of the two. This has been abundantly witnessed from the sudden and unexpected supervention of great wealth on nipping poverty ; and insanity, and even death, have been a not unfrequent consequence ; for the mind is elastic, and gradually rises from the weight of sorrow that depressed it : but when the load of embarrassment, and anxiety, and distress, is suddenly removed, and a superabundant influx of nervous excitement is as suddenly infused, the specific gravity of reason is thrown as it were from the mind's centre, and never able to regain her seat. It is an overcharge of animal electricity, and an explosion follows, the illumination and destruction being simultaneous. Instances of its fatal property are recorded and familiar. Pliny asserts positively that the joy of having won the prize in tragedy put an end to the days of Sophocles, and also of Dionysius of Sicily. He also gives the example of the Roman lady who died from joy to see her son safe returned from the battle of Cannæ. Another instance presents in the old Greek who died on the spot from excess of joy on seeing his three sons crowned with laurel at the Olympic games. The pathology is only explicable on the principle of nervous excitement already specified—in other words, a shock of animal electricity ; for no *structural* disease could be detected by post-mortem inspection under such circumstances. We can only say that the equilibrium of the nervous and vascular systems has been disturbed to a degree incompatible with the laws of existence, and death is the result !

All other emotions and passions are, in fact, only modifications of the influence of the mind on the material organization already described ; and it may be difficult to penetrate more deeply into "*cet abyme des incertitudes*" than has been done by those whose names I have quoted, and by other physiologists whose reputation is immortalized by their researches in this interesting branch of medical philosophy, and is identified with it. It cannot be denied that the functions of the brain and nerves—the reflex action of the latter—the respective peculiarities of the sentient and motor nerves—the distinctions between involuntary muscles and muscles of volition—the ganglionic system—the separate offices of the brain and spinal marrow, and all their individual and combined operations and uses, have been most minutely studied, and most assiduously investigated, and partly ascertained, within the last few years, not only by those on whom the grave has closed, but by several who still live to enjoy the *Superbiam quiesitam meritis*. Should the latter have retired from the field of philosophy to enter it no more, the laurel still is green upon their brow ; and, with this encouragement, let us hope that, though the subject is intricate, and the barrier apparently insurmountable, others may not be deterred from prosecuting the inquiry, remembering that

"The wise and active conquer difficulties  
By daring to oppose them."

In fact, the subject merits even more attention than it has hitherto received; for, however valuable the pathological observations may ultimately be, the inferences which have been drawn from the experiments which have been instituted are nevertheless so incomplete and perplexed, that further research, and the "*longioris aevi diligentia*," are requisite to verify them. The nature and exact functions of the ganglia—that prime minister of organic life; the sympathetic nerve, with its various connections and offices; the endowments and relations of the medullary and cineritious constituents of the brain and nerves; the unity of the nervous power; the vital principle itself, and its connection with material organization—in a word, the *terra incognita*, which at present forms the extreme boundary of human knowledge, is still involved in an obscure mist and mystery which affords ample space for our consideration and study.

If vivisection be indispensable to the further prosecution of physiological inquiry, and physiology stagnates because humanity shudders and shrinks from the infliction of pain, it is gratifying to feel that her hand-maid, chloroform, is come amongst us as though to obviate the leading objection to experiment, and beckon us to further scientific investigation. Her supreme power over the entire nervous system may ere long open the portal to information which as yet has been closed against us, whilst her anaesthetic agency must rank high amongst the most valuable of modern medical blessings and discoveries. The extended action of it, and of other powerful anaesthetic and stimulant medicines on the nervous system, is a subject well worthy of especial study. It has burst in upon us lately with a dazzling effulgency, although it must at present be considered in comparative infancy. As we employ it more generally, and become better acquainted with it, many advantages may be anticipated from this class of remedy, especially in mental and nervous affections. We all know or have witnessed the operation of the nitrous oxyde on the nervous system; the astonishing influence of mesmerism; the anaesthetic effect of the inhalation of ether; the operation of aconite and other narcotics—the effects of all of which on the brain and spinal marrow are strongly illustrative of the antithesis of my subject, viz., the action of *matter on mind*; and here, amongst the first and foremost, must be classed the maddening fascination and mental bewilderments consequent on opium and the preparations of it—that Nepenthe of both mental and corporeal suffering and inquietude—"sine quo," as Celsus observes, "medicina quasi manca sit, ac claudicet!" How many a painful paroxysm of agony does it not avert! How many a night of ease and tranquillity does it not procure, which, but for "this sweet oblivious antidote," were spent in suffering and restlessness! Who can forget the poetry and pathos with which its Elysian properties have been depicted by De Quincy in his "*Confessions*!" Yet who would not shrink from the Circæan cup, or dash it to the earth, rather than be similarly enslaved by its intoxications! Under its powerful influence the nervous system is variously affected in different individuals. Per-

ception is confused ; ideality is excited ; memory is blunted, or is, perhaps, extraordinarily augmented ; visions arise which are confounded with realities ; and the mind becomes entangled and intoxicated by it ! It begins by exciting, but terminates by stupefying the brain, inducing coma and death : but its action on the mind through its material organization is a striking illustration of the dependence on, and the connection of, the one with the other. The sublimities of genius are, indeed, unfrequently invoked and elicited by these mental stimulants, which excite the brain, though at the expense of the stomach. Many of the fine pictorial productions of Fuseli are said to have been the children of indigestion and irritated brain—nay, it is asserted that he ate freely at supper of whatever was calculated to cause dyspepsia and night-mare, for this express purpose.

The effects of all the narcotic poisons on the animal organismus are very analogous ; some are more rapid in their effects than others, as prussic acid ; some are attended by convulsions ; some dilate, whilst others contract, the pupil of the eye. The principal symptoms are cephalgia, vertigo, affection of the retina, with paralysis, convulsive stupor, and death ; but no morbid lesions are discernible from narcotic poisons, unless we include venous congestion or serous effusion in the encephalon. The general impression is, that they either operate on the brain through the circulating system, or, as others maintain, their operation is on the centre of the nervous system, and its sympathy with those expansions of it on which the morbid impressions are made ; and the instantaneous death consequent on a large dose of prussic acid favors this theory.

The action of stimulants is to awaken the susceptibility to impressions, to pour fresh oil into the lamp of exhausted nature, to sharpen the intellectual energy, and to dissipate sorrow and anxiety. "Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more"—said Solomon.

Profane authors teem with such encomiums. Many a passage might be cited from scores of classic authors in support of the exhilarating and creative influence of wine. Some of our most celebrated statesmen would not attempt to speak, until they had aroused their powers of eloquence by stimulant potations ; and Horace asks—

"*Feeundi calices, quem non fecere disertum ?*"

Energy is therefore the first impression that is made by alcohol as well as by opium. The mental function acts with unwonted power ; wit is awakened—and fancy and imagination being aroused, and luxuriating with unfettered vigor, the poet and the orator pour forth their sublimest strains, and give utterance to their grandest conceptions. If, however, the stimulus exceed the due proportion, and reason is floated from her capitol, the ideas become confused and incoherent, the powers of the mind are swamped, vertigo follows, bringing exhaustion in its train, and apoplexy finishes the scene. Where a copious potion has been suddenly made, not only the mucous membrane of the stomach is inflamed and injured, as Dr. Roupell has ably depicted to us in his trea-

tise, and illustrated with colored plates, but the shock sustained by the nerves is communicated to the brain, and a fatal result ensues before time for absorption can take place. From smaller proportions, daily and constantly repeated, we have palsy, dyspepsia, mania, delirium tremens, debility, and every indication of the intellect—the brain, and whole nervous system, being shattered and destroyed—and our gaols are crowded, our madhouses are stocked, and our church-yards filled, by the victims of this pernicious and demoralizing vice. Without, however, digressing into a treatise on alcohol and its effects, suffice it to say, that the *vis nervosa* and powers of the mind are salubriously augmented or perniciously impaired by its action on the brain, according to circumstances : and in alluding to the articles which I have just enumerated, I feel that I have adduced the strongest illustrations with which we are acquainted, of the instrumental agency of *Matter on the Mind*. This it is which renders the study of the operations of stimulants and of narcotics particularly incumbent on those who devote their time and attention to the treatment of insanity : for the condition of insane patients is very various. Wine, which in a state of health induces a temporary delirium, will, on the other hand, mitigate or suspend the low muttering delirium of typhoid fevers, where it arises from depressed vitality. The same observation applies to opium. How frequently this is demonstrated in the calmness and rationality with which patients awake, where morphia has been given in such proportion as to induce sleep under such circumstances ! and though of course insanity is not to be confounded with delirium, yet how valuable is the effect of morphia, and of henbane at times, in every lunatic asylum, as well as in the fever hospital ! My friend Dr. Seymour asserts the acetate of morphia to be more efficacious in that melancholy stage in which suicide is to be apprehended, than any mode of treatment which can be adopted ; and I fully coincide in such opinion in many instances. It is equally so in puerperal insanity, and in other forms of mental alienation attended with irritation and debility. How strikingly this is evidenced in the delirium à potu, or "tremens," as it is generally termed. Where, from nervous exhaustion, therefore, the nerve matter, whatever it may be, no longer exercises its function as a medium through which the mind exercises volition or perceives impression, morphia would appear to impart a new mode of consciousness. It suspends the exhaustion which causes the disorder of the sensorium in typhus, and refreshment follows the repose that is induced by it—in a word, the alternations of mental action correspond with states of bodily excitement and exhaustion ; but the cause of any deviation from the normal condition of either mind or body must be ascertained before the appropriate remedy can be prescribed, inasmuch as cerebral excitement in an opposite condition would be aggravated by opium or stimulants.

Inequality in the distribution of the blood to the brain invariably affects the intellectual functions, be the cause what it may. This is evident in the simple act of fainting (in which all consciousness, perception, volition, and other properties, are suspended for a time), as much as in congestion of the brain. Fainting is, in fact, a vivid instance of the subjugation of the body to mental emotion, for it is a suspension of

the heart's action, consequent on a sudden impression on the mind. This theory is, however, opposed by that eminent physiologist Bichat, who asserts that the brain has no immediate influence upon the heart. His opinion was, that the passions and mental emotions are to be referred primarily to the heart, and not to the cerebral system; and in analyzing the pathology of syncope he contended that the suspension of the heart's action was in all cases the *primary* circumstance; that of respiration, sensation and voluntary motion, being only *secondary*. Great as may be the presumption to differ from so celebrated a physiologist, it is difficult to concur in this opinion; for where it occurs in persons of delicate susceptibility on the sight of a toad, or a spider, or any other offensive object of sight (as so frequently occurs), it is surely an impression on the brain through the medium of the optic nerve, and communicated *secondarily* to the heart and circulating system. Where syncope is consequent on a sudden loss of blood, on the heat of crowded apartments, on the use of the hot bath, on long standing and other physical derivatives of blood from the brain, this theory is admissible; but that it is *also* produced by the agency of the mind appears undeniable, and the etymology of "leipothymia," "or animi deliquium," is accordingly given to it. Since, however, it cannot be denied that syncope is by no means an unfrequent consequence of **FATIGUE**—and inasmuch as I should deeply regret to find myself a remote or proximate cause of such an occurrence in this room by trespassing at *too great* a length on your attention, I will here close my lecture.—*London Medical Gazette.*

[To be continued.]

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## THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

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BOSTON, OCTOBER 8, 1851.

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*Expulsion of Tape-Worm.*—The following letter is from Richard Soule, Esq., of Boston, a gentleman of the highest respectability, whose only object is to make known extensively, among physicians, what he considers a specific for the destruction of the tape-worm. Its non-professional source should not lessen the confidence of medical practitioners in the article, for the writer is the last person in the world to propose any thing that he did not believe would really promote human health and happiness. Dr. J. S. Jones, of this city, who wrote on the subject in this Journal a year or two since, had excellent success, we believe, with the same preparation, and we have been hoping for a report of his cases for publication. Every vessel touching at Matanzas, Havana, or, in fact, at any West India port, might bring home any quantity of the seed spoken of in Mr. Soule's paper. We respectfully suggest that druggists should provide themselves with it, to answer orders that will very likely be sent to them from the interior.

Dr. J. V. C. Smith.

DEAR SIR.—The merits of the very simple *pumpkin-seed cure for tape-worm*, rests on the testimony of those who have thereby succeeded in expelling these troublesome intruders from the premises they had occupied

for years; and the accidental agency the writer has had in one of these cases, has brought a number of applications for the recipe. Should you deem it of sufficient importance to occupy a page in your widely-circulated Journal, it may serve to relieve some afflicted one who cannot well avail himself of the physician's aid, and also give to physicians a new remedy; I therefore place the recipe at your disposal. Yours assuredly, R. S.

*Cure for Tape Worm.*—Procure sufficient seed of the pumpkin (those grown in the West Indies are the best) to make two ounces after removing the outside shell of the seed; put them into a mortar and add half a pint of water; pound them well up, and make a liquid orgeat of them, which strain through a cloth. Drink this mixture in the morning on a fasting stomach. If it does not operate in the course of an hour and a half, take one ounce of castor oil. Drink all the time as much fresh cool water as the stomach can bear or contain; that is, drench yourself with water. After taking the orgeat, if the stomach is well rubbed with ether, and an injection of about 60 drops of it is taken, you will find it an assistant to the orgeat, but this may not be necessary. Should the first application of the remedy not answer, repeat it the next morning, and there is no doubt your complaint will be removed. The worm will leave the patient all at once, and probably entire. This can be ascertained by finding the small end or head of it, which tapers off almost to a point.

P. S.—The New York friend, from whom I received the recipe, of which the preceding is a copy, in March, 1848, remarks, in support of his opinion of the efficacy of this remedy, that "Capt. —— says he did not have to take the injection, although he took two separate doses of the seed (the first not operating sufficiently), which relieved him at once, and since which time has cured probably a dozen different persons afflicted with the tape worm, who had been given over by their physicians. The worm from him was 34 feet long, each link about one inch. He rubbed the stomach with ether, after taking the orgeat. It may be advisable to use the forenamed remedy under the advice and with the assistance of a physician." I have only to add, that the suffering lady in this city, for whose relief the writer's aid and influence was solicited by her husband, has been restored to perfect health, after years of prostration and efforts for relief; and in thankfulness for the interest I had manifested in the case, sent me a glass jar containing a large part, if not the whole, of the worm that had been her tormentor for several years.

Boston, Oct. 1, 1851.

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*Dr. Wheaton, of Providence, R. I.*—A few weeks since, the death of this venerable physician, at the patriarchal age of 90 years, was announced. Dr. W. had been distinguished, during his long life, for the virtues of a Christian, the accomplishments of a gentleman, and the acquirements of a scholar. We have been hoping that some one, familiar with his claims to the respect of the profession to which he belonged, would have prepared for our pages a memoir that would have been just to his memory, and at the same time been instructive to all who have a desire to profit by the experience of the wise and good. But no such memoir has been received; and rather than allow the name of Dr. Wheaton to pass away without an effort to perpetuate his memory in a Journal of Medicine of which he was a distinguished patron, and to whose pages he was a valued occasional contributor, a few paragraphs have been detached for in-

section, from a sketch of him in the Manufacturer's and Farmer's Journal, of Providence. Even at this late moment, however, a hope is entertained that some friend of Dr. W. may favor us with a sketch of his life and character, that shall embrace more illustrative points of his career—for what eminent person is without them? Any body can be a common fixture in society, but there must be talent to sustain a man in a prominent, commanding position, while engaged in the arduous duties of a medical practitioner. The extracts alluded to are deferred till next week.

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*Prosecution for Mal-practice.*—A case has recently been tried in the Court of Common Pleas, in the city of Lowell, of a character similar to those mischievous prosecutions that for some years past have alarmed medical gentlemen, in various parts of the country, to such a degree that many have about concluded to let all surgical patients go unassisted in their afflictions. If by any combination of unforeseen constitutional or other circumstances, a fractured bone or a punctured wound is not immediately cured, the surgeon is at once driven to the wall by a prosecution for mal-practice, the object and aim of the prosecutors being to make to themselves mamon out of the spoils, even if they rob the practitioner of his honest earnings and ruin his reputation. It seems that, in the case alluded to, a woman cut her right thumb while paring apples. In consequence of the condition of the wound, which pained her, Dr. J. T. G. Leach, of that city, was called in for advice. From a careful analysis of the testimony in regard to the treatment, his course appears to have been perfectly judicious, and this was the opinion of very eminent medical gentlemen who were called before the court. Notwithstanding the weight of evidence would seem to have been strong enough to have sustained Dr. Leach, to our surprise, at least, the jury could not agree. The more we have reflected upon the testimony, the more we are astonished at the result. Of what value is evidence in courts of law, if it is to have no weight? Dr. Charles A. Savory, Dr. D. Mowe, Dr. Thurston, Dr. J. C. Dalton, Dr. Green, Dr. Parkman, and Dr. Balch, if we understand them, sustained Dr. Leach triumphantly.

At the Missionary Hospital, in China, in which Dr. Peter Parker, the American Surgeon, has distinguished himself by the performance of some of the boldest operations in surgery, before the people became enlightened and comprehended the value of his services he refused to operate till a bond had been executed, in which applicants agreed not to claim damages of him should he be unsuccessful. It would perhaps be the course of prudence for surgeons among us to keep blank bonds on hand, to be filled up before commencing treatment, if the public continue to ask for their best endeavors and then prosecute them for damages should the result be unfavorable.

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*Quarantines.*—Within a few days a batch of pamphlets on the subject of quarantines has been handed in for perusal. We have little patience in reading arguments which favor the non-intercourse of nations. Like the messenger to Queen Dido, we have seen all, and been a part, and bear our testimony against restrictions on commerce that in any manner resemble the infamous practices of the despotic powers on the borders of the Mediterranean. With a show of care for the public health, there is no other motive than a revenue. Recently, however, the discovery has

been made, that it is a beautiful political manœuvre for limiting civilization and keeping out liberal opinions.

**Lead Diseases.**—On looking over a treatise from the French of L. Tanquerel des Planches, with notes and additions on the use of lead pipe and its substitutes, by Samuel Dana, M.D., we are more than ever satisfied that there is something to be learned in regard to a variety of diseases which have their origin in the poison of lead. In the city of Boston, where water pipes have but recently been 'aid, time enough has not elapsed to develop the effects which are reputed to follow the use of potable water drawn through leaden tubes. But they may come, and it is worth the particular care of our professional brethren to collect any facts that may come to their notice, indicative of the existence of symptoms due to the action of lead in the system. It is important to ascertain whether there are more cases of colic, arthralgia, paralysis or encephalopathy, than when the citizens were drinking the filthy water which was the only resource before the introduction of the Cochituate. Do the bills of mortality exhibit a larger number of deaths from any one malady that might rationally be supposed to have been made more active by the presence of small portions of lead in the system? When the public mind was considerably agitated upon the subject of service pipes, in Boston, to conduct the water from iron logs into the houses, a preference was expressed, by the reflecting part of the community, for something besides lead; but no two could agree upon what was the best substitute, or upon the relative expense of iron, glass, and such other kinds of tubing as had been suggested from various respectable sources. In the meanwhile, every one was anxious for the water, and the lead pipes, being ready made, and their expense light, outweighed all objections, and they now branch out everywhere, and ramify over and through every section of the city. If it should prove, on inquiry, that diseases usually imputed to the presence of lead have not increased, and that the public is in no way badly influenced by their new aquatic conveniences, it would be equally important to know it. Dr. Dana's translation should be regarded with interest, because it is the only volume to which we can go for instruction in case it hereafter becomes a grave question, whether the public has been seriously injured, and if so, to what extent, by the adoption of lead conduits. In the appendix there is a collection of medical views from gentlemen of distinction, upon the subject generally; and, thus, taken all in all, Dr. Dana has contributed largely to the stock of professional resources, if, in this matter, he has not made others see as clearly as he does the evils in question.

**New York Medical Times.**—This is the new Journal to which we alluded recently as about to appear in New York. It is to be published monthly, and is edited by J. G. Adams, M.D. No. 1 is a specimen of prompt enterprise and originality. It is a rare qualification for an editor to be able to write good articles himself, and to command them from others. Dr. Adams will soon discover that there are many gentlemen who like to be the subjects of commendatory paragraphs, calculated to extend their professional influence, and while these are published they will be very friendly; but when it comes to paying for the support of a Journal, or contributing to its pages in a way to raise its reputation, increase

its profits, or elevate the professional reputation of the country, they turn a cold shoulder. We wish the new Journal all possible success, and tender to the editor our kind regards—hoping he may have health and happiness, and a host of paying subscribers.

*Hindu Remedy for Sterility.*—The following is copied, merely as a matter of curiosity, from one of the medical works received from India a short time since, and already alluded to in this Journal. Take powder of bidari or anuloka, mixed with honey or ghee, and eat the testes of a goat, roasted and prepared with salt, ghee and long pepper. The preparations of maskulai, with sugar barley and wheat. Eat the eggs of crabs, crocodiles or turtles, properly prepared. Flour prepared with ghee and milk, rubbed on the feet with oil mixed with crocodile's eggs—the flesh of rats, frogs, and the eggs of sparrows. The patient, in the meanwhile, is to drink fresh milk with sugar, honey, and swallow the powder of Swayan-gupta, with ekuruka!

*Tea and its Adulterations.*—The “Analytical Sanitary Commission,” in London, to which reference was made some months since in this Journal, is still pursuing its analyses of various articles of food and drink. The different kinds of tea and their adulterations have occupied a prominent place in its investigations. A very brief summing up of researches respecting this article is contained in the following extract. Much curious information concerning the culture of the tea plant is contained in the Commission’s report in the *Lancet*, which we may hereafter copy.

“The chief points ascertained with regard to *black tea* are—

“1st. That the principal black teas—namely, the Congous and Sou-chongs, arrive in this country, for the most part, in a genuine state.

“2d. That certain descriptions of black tea, as Scented Orange Pekoe and Caper, are invariably adulterated, the adulteration in general consisting in the glazing of the leaves with plumbago or black lead; the Caper likewise being subject to admixture with other substances, as paddy-husk, Lie tea, and leaves other than those of tea.

“3d. That several varieties of a spurious Caper, or black gunpowder, are prepared, which consist of tea-dust, and sometimes the dust of other leaves, and sand, made up into little masses with gum, and faced or glazed with plumbago, Prussian blue, and turmeric-powder; in some cases these imitations are sold separately, but most frequently they are used to mix with and adulterate the better qualities of Caper—viz. those which are made of tea faced with lumbago only.

“With respect to *green tea* the principal conclusions are—

“1st. That these teas, with the exception of a few of British growth and manufacture, from Assam, are invariably adulterated—that is to say, are glazed with coloring matters of different kinds.

“2d. That the coloring matters used are in general Prussian blue, turmeric-powder, and China clay, other ingredients being sometimes but not frequently employed.

“3rd. That of these coloring matters, Prussian blue, or ferro-cyanide of iron, possesses properties calculated to affect health injuriously.

“4th. That in this country there is really no such thing as a green tea—that is, one which possesses the natural green hue considered to characterize that kind of tea.

"5th. That green teas, and more especially the Gunpowders, in addition to being faced and glazed, are more subject to adulteration in other ways than black teas, as by admixture with leaves not those of tea, with paddy-husk, and particularly with Lie tea.

"That Lie tea is prepared so as to resemble green tea, and is extensively used by the Chinese themselves to adulterate gunpowder tea; it is also sent over to this country in vast quantities, and is employed for the same purpose by our own tea-dealers and grocers."

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*New Remedies for Tape-Worm.*—Mr. Burnett, Tremont street, and Philbrick, Carpenter & Co., have received a small quantity of kousso, the lauded tape-worm expulsive, a product of the *Brayera Anthelmintica*, a tree of Abyssinia. It is represented to have been used in France and England, for some time past, with eminent success. Those who are afflicted will no doubt avail themselves of it, and also of the other remedy alluded to by a writer in this day's Journal. Whatever success may attend the administration of either should be published, and nothing kept back which can be of the least service in guiding physicians in their treatment of these cases.

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*Dr. Dickson's Case of Paracentesis Thoracis.*—Our attention has been called to the case of paracentesis thoracis, copied into this Journal last week from the Charleston Medical Journal. It was given in Dr. D.'s own words, and it was supposed our readers would each form his own opinion whether the writer had mistaken simple pleurisy for tubercular consumption. In order, however, that their attention may be more particularly drawn to a probable error in Dr. Dickson's diagnosis, we copy the following remarks by the editor of the Charleston Journal, from the same number that contains the case in question:—

"We could have wished that Dr. Dickson's interesting communication had contained a full and minute account of the stethoscopic signs. Without in the least intending to disparage the diagnostic powers of Dr. R., we venture to suggest that the disease, for which the operation was performed, might have been one of circumscribed pleuritis (the predisposition existing in the tubercular diathesis), with an effusion of purulent or sero-purulent matter, in which adhesion was established with the parietes, and the matter evacuated in the way mentioned by Dr. D. Did we have space, we could adduce several reasons for the adoption of the latter view. If Dr. R.'s opinion of the nature of the disease be correct, we cannot but regard the case as unique."

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*Return of Dr. Warren from Europe.*—Dr. John C. Warren, of this city, whose departure for Europe was mentioned in this Journal early in the summer, with the inadvertent additional statement that he was to be absent two years, returned last week to his home, after a pleasant journey, and able to engage anew in the professional duties which he has so long and successfully performed among us.

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*Meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society.*—An adjourned meeting of this Society took place in this city on Thursday last. The principal business transacted was the expulsion, by nearly a unanimous vote, of Dr.

Barrows, on recommendation of the Counsellors, for charges preferred against him by Dr. B. Carpenter, of Pawtucket. It was voted to adjourn to February next, after the meeting of the Counsellors, to attend to charges against other members.

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*Trial for Malicious Prosecution.*—In the case of Dr. T. H. Smith, before the Supreme Court, against Dr. Hyndeman, and Mr. H. D. Fowle, apothecary, all of this city, for alleged malicious prosecution in a trial alluded to in this Journal last spring, the jury on Monday returned a verdict for plaintiff—damages \$300. The damages claimed were \$10,000.

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*The New Insane Hospital.*—Ex-Gov. Briggs and his associates, Commissioners to locate the new State Insane Asylum, were in Boston last week, and decided to locate it in the eastern rather than the western section of the Commonwealth. The precise locality is a matter yet to be determined.

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*Medical Miscellany.*—Mrs. Maria Lynch, of Claremont, N. H., is now one hundred and five years old.—Frequent inquiry is made in regard to Mr. Palmer's success in artificial leg manufacture, in London. Another communication from him may be soon expected.—The manufacture of Benzole is likely to produce striking changes in the manufacture of burning fluids and other branches of domestic economy.—The last number of the American Journal of Dental Science has 168 pages of matter. It is a beautifully printed quarterly, at five dollars a year.—Dr. A. S. Peck, of Holyoke, Mass., has been appointed a coroner. This is presumed to be the first appointment of a medical man to that office, in New England.—A physician of Georgia has been fighting a duel.—Dr. Farnham, of Detroit, Michigan, one of the convicted railroad conspirators, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for 8 years.—There is soon to be published a new work on *Surgical Anatomy and Operative Surgery*, by M. M. Bernard and Huette, of Paris, with 150 original steel plates.—In Vermont, the deaths the year before the census were 1 out of 90 persons; Rhode Island, 1 out of 66; in South Carolina, 1 out of 48; and in Arkansas, 1 out of 54.—In a small village in Cleveland, England, the clergyman is blessed with 16 children; the clerk, 19; and the sexton, 14; in all, a small "tea-party" of 55 souls, the parents included.

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**MARRIED.**—In this city, Oct. 6th, M. Aurelius Moore, M.D., of Boston, to Miss Kate, daughter of Paul Swift, M.D., of Philadelphia.

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**DIED.**—At Pine Plain, N. Y., Dr. I. H. Davis, from a puncture of his finger in a post-mortem examination three years ago.—In Westchester Co., N.Y., 16th July, Dr. Gilbert Smith, of New York, for more than fifty years a highly esteemed and popular practitioner of that city.—At Edinburgh, Scotland, Henry Marshall, M.D.; Sir James G. Dalzell, M.D.—In Paris, France, M. Colombat, and M. Baudeloque.—Dr. W. Wood, of Georgetown, Indiana, blown up in a river steamboat.

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*Deaths in Boston*—for the week ending Saturday noon, Oct. 4th, 79.—Males, 42—females, 37  
Accidental, 2—apoplexy, 1—disease of bowels, 11—inflammation of bowels, 1—disease of brain, 1—burn, 2—consumption, 14—convulsions, 1—cholera infantum, 6—dysentery, 7—diarrhoea, 5—dropsey, 1—dropsey of brain, 1—drowned, 1—typhoid fever, 3—lung fever 3—fracture, 1—hooping cough, 1—infantile, 1—disease of the liver, 1—marasmus, 3—poison, 1—scrofula, 1—scald, 1—suicide, 1—teething, 3—unknown, 1—disease of womb 1.

Under 5 years, 37—between 5 and 20 years, 7—between 20 and 40 years, 21—between 40 and 60 years, 9—over 60 years, 5. Americans, 38; foreigners and children of foreigners, 41. The above includes 8 deaths at the City Institutions.

**BOLIVSTON MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.**

**B**Y THE Boylston Medical Committee, appointed by the Corporation of Harvard University, consists of the following Physicians:

JOHN C. WARREN, M.D. WALTER CHANNING, M.D.  
S. D. TOWNSEND, M.D. D. H. STORER, M.D.  
G. C. SHATTUCK, M.D. EDW. REYNOLDS, M.D.  
J. H. S. JACKSON, M.D. J. MARSH, M.D., M.D.  
JOHN JEFFRIES, M.D. Secy.

At the Annual Meeting of the Committee, held Aug. 6, 1831, no Dissertation had been offered on either of the subjects proposed for the year 1831. The subjects for 1832 are—

1. On the Diseases of the Prostate Gland.
2. Original Researches with the Microscope, Illustrative of Anatomy, Physiology, or Pathology.

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted, post paid, to JOHN C. WARREN, M.D., Boston, on or before the first Wednesday of April, 1832.

The subjects for 1833 are—

1. On Pathological Pleurisy and other diseases followed by Effusions into the cavity of the Thorax.
2. On the Use of Cod Liver Oil in Phthisis, and other Diseases of Nutrition.

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted as above, on or before the first Wednesday in April, 1833.

The author of the best Dissertation considered worthy of a prize on either of the above questions, will be entitled to a premium of sixty dollars, or a gold medal of the value of his option.

Each Dissertation must be accompanied by a sealed packet, on which shall be written some device, or sentence, and within shall be enclosed the author's name and residence. The same device or sentence is to be written on the Dissertation to which the packet is attached.

All unsuccessful Dissertations are deposited with the Secretary, from whom they may be obtained, with the sealed packet unopened, if called for within one year after they have been received.

By order of the Board in 1832 the Secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes, viz.:

1. That the Board do not consider themselves as approving the doctrines contained in any of the Dissertations to which the premiums may be adjudged.

2. That in case of the publication of a successful Dissertation, the author be considered as bound to print the above vote in connection therewith.

SS-47

JOHN JEFFRIES, Secretary.

**POND & MORSE**—Dealers in Genuine Drugs, Medicines, &c., Main Street, Rutland, Vt. Physicians furnished as above. The lowest Boston prices. A full assortment of Glass Ware, Surgical Instruments, &c., always on hand.

N. B.—Patent Medicines not manufactured or sold.

Sept. 1, 1851. 510—tf.

**NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY.**—The subscriber, aware of the adulterations practised in preparing and powdering Drugs and Medicines for the market, and the difficulty experienced in distinguishing the pure, has arranged to have most of these articles powdered in his establishment. Samples of drugs and original articles will be kept for examination, and he has requested Dr. A. A. Hill, State Assessor, to analyze at any time such preparations as may appear of doubtful genuineness, before offering them for sale, thereby insuring to physicians pure drugs and medicines.

WM. BROWN,  
481 Washington, corner of Elliot street.

N. B.—With the above arrangement all can be supplied with pure and undiluted medicines. Physicians of Boston and vicinity are invited to call and examine the above arrangement, and see samples of pure drug and medicine. No one allowed to put up prescriptions except those of long experience and perfect masters of their profession.

T<sup>r</sup> The sale of all Fancy Goods and Confectionery is discontinued on the Sabbath. Prescriptions and family medicines sold as usual on that day.

Sept. 4.

**PURE CHLOROFORM.**—For sale by JOSEPH BURNETT, Apothecary, No. 33 Tremont Row. Jan. 5—15

A PHYSICIAN, located about 7 miles from Boston, in a flourishing village, and within a few rods of a railroad depot, will relinquish his practice to any well-recommended practitioner, upon his purchase of real estate at its true value, or less. This offers a good opportunity for any gentleman who wishes to make rapid success. Desires to introduce a son or friend to an ample practice. Inquire at this office.

Aug. 31—42

**TREMONT STREET MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—**I**n BOSTON, OVER 33 TREMONT ROW.—The annual course of instruction in the Tremont School commences this year on the first day of September.

This School was instituted in Boston, in 1830, by the purchase of a house to accommodate pupils in thorough courses of instruction, by lectures and examinations, throughout the year. Two hundred pupils, including a large part of the recent academic graduates of Harvard University, who have devoted themselves to the study of medicine, and many others from all sections of the country, have received their professional education, or some portion of it, at this institution. By an act of the Legislature a charter has been conferred upon this School, which is thus enabled to avail itself of all the privileges which the laws of the State have conceded, and may hereafter confer upon incorporated medical institutions.

Exercises in the different branches are given daily or oftener, from the close of the University lectures in March, until their commencement in November, with the exception of the month of August, during which most of the usual labors of the School are suspended. During the session of the University Medical School, examinations are held three times weekly on the subjects of the lectures.

The following gentlemen are instructors in this School, during the present year, in the several departments of medical science, forming a complete and thorough course.

JACOB BIGELOW, M.D.  
D. HUMPHREY STORER, M.D.  
J. B. S. JACKSON, M.D.  
OLIVER W. HOLMES, M.D.  
HENRY J. BIGELOW, M.D.  
SAMUEL CABOT, M.D.  
SAMUEL KNEELAND, M.D.

Practical Anatomy is taught under the immediate direction of the Teacher of Anatomy and Physiology, assisted by the Demonstrator of the Medical School of the University. Ample means of pursuing this important branch of study, and for the practice of the more important surgical operations, are provided without additional expense to the student.

**CLINICAL INSTRUCTION.**

This essential branch of a medical education is made an object of especial attention. There will be clinical visits at the Massachusetts General Hospital, in the Medical Department, by Drs. Bigelow, Jackson and Storer, with Lectures at stated intervals; and constant attention to the practical study of Auscultation and Percussion, for which ample opportunities occur in the practice of the Hospital.

Clinical Instruction in Surgery will be given at the same institution by Dr. Henry J. Bigelow.

Ample opportunities are afforded for experience in Obstetric practice.

**CLINICAL INSTITUTIONS.**

In addition to the medical and surgical practices and operations of the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Students will have admission to the Eye and Ear Infirmary, through the politeness of the Surgeons of that Institution; and also to the institution for the treatment of Diseases of the Skin, by permission of Dr. Durkee.

**MEANS OF ILLUSTRATION.**

The large collections of healthy and morbid specimens in the Warren Anatomical Museum, and the Cabinet of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, will be made available for the purposes of instruction under the direction of Dr. Jackson, the Curator of both these collections.

**LIBRARY.**

During the whole Summer term, the Students of the Tremont Street Medical School will have free access to, and the privilege of taking Books from the Library of the Massachusetts Medical College, now consisting of about 1500 volumes, and rapidly increasing by a large annual appropriation, devoted to the purchase of Books most useful and acceptable to the Student.

\* Application may be made to Dr. Bigelow, Summer street, Boston. A new Catalogue of the past and present Members of the School, with other details, may be had gratis, by applying, post-paid, to Mr. Burnett, Apothecary, 33 Tremont Row, or Mr. Ticknor's Bookstore, at the Mass. Assn. Office. The Room of the School, at 33 Tremont Row, over Mr. Burnett's Apothecary store, is open to Students from 6 A. M. to 10 P. M. for furnishing, Plates, Preparations, Articles of the Materia Medica, &c.

**TERMS.**

For the Summer Term (from March 1st to November 1st), \$30. For the Winter Term (from November 1st to March 1st), \$10. For a Year, \$100.

Aug. 31—42

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## MEDICAL JOURNAL ADVERTISING SHEET.

**MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL COLLEGE.**—The Medical Lectures of Harvard University will commence at the Massachusetts Medical College in Boston, on the first Wednesday in November, and continue four months.

**Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence, by WALTER CHANNING, M.D.**  
**Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine, by JACOB BIGELOW, M.D.**  
**Theory and Practice of Medicine, by JOHN WARE, M.D.**  
**Pathological Anatomy, by JOHN B. S. JACKSON, M.D.**  
**Anatomy and Physiology, by OLIVER W. HOLMES, M.D.**  
**Principles and Operations of Surgery, by HENRY J. BICKLAW, M.D.**  
**Chemistry, by J. P. COOKE, A. M.**

Clinical Lectures are delivered at the Massachusetts General Hospital three times a week, by the professors of Clinical Medicine and of Surgery. Surgical operations are very numerous, performed weekly in the presence of the class in the operating theatre. The safe and exact practice of etherization, a dissection course in Boston, and natural history, are established in the Massachusetts General Hospital, and is practically taught in this school.

Practical Anatomy is amply provided for by the most liberal arrangements. The anatomical museum is one of the largest and richest in the United States, and has a fund of \$5,000 for its increase. The Eye and Ear Infirmary and other charities are open to students.

The professors of Pathological Anatomy, of Surgery, and of Chemistry, are now pursuing their medical inquiries in Europe, but are expected to return in season to be present at the opening of the coming course.

Fees for the whole course, \$80. Matriculation, \$5. Dissecting Ticket, \$5. Graduation, \$30. Hospital and Library gratuitous.

June 1.—apt.

**DENTAL REMOVAL.**—Dr. J. H. SWILLY, having moved to No. 51-3 Tremont Row, is now prepared to perform every operation in Dentistry required for the health and preservation of the Teeth, and trusts that his former success will insure a continued of public patronage.

Opp. the head of Brattle st. Boston. 3y 16-3m

**PURE COD LIVER OIL,** carefully prepared only from fresh and healthy livers, by Joseph Burnett, Apothecary, No. 33 Tremont Row, Boston. Dr. C. B. Williams, an eminent English physician, after prescribing it in 400 cases of consumption (in 20 of which he has been fully successful) in the London Journal of Medicine.<sup>14</sup> As the result of experience, confirmed by a rational consideration of its mode of action, the pure fresh oil from the liver of the cod is more beneficial in the treatment of pulmonary consumption, than any other agent, medicinal, dietetic, or regimenial, that has yet been employed."

June 18—tL

**CHIRRETTA**—A new Anti-periodic, just received by PHILBRICK, CARPENTER & CO., 160 Washington street, Boston. aug 6

**ELIXIR OF OPIUM**—Made from the formula of the Philadelphia Jones' "Opium", and is intended to be a substitute for the "popular" medicine called McMunn's Elixir. This is a preparation of Opium without Narcotine, and the strength is the same as Tinct. Opii. Manufactured by

PHILBRICK, CARPENTER & CO.,  
Successors to PHILBRICK & TRAFTON, Chemists.  
July 23.

**SARATOGA POWDERS**—or Rochelle, Seidlitz, S and Soda Powders, one pound each, to six boxes of the above—price 25 cents. There will be found a great convenience to travellers persons residing in the country, invalids, and to all deprived of a soda fountain. Put up and sold by J. RUSSELL SPALDING, 23 Tremont Row, opposite Boston Museum.

April 30—tf

**MATICO**—A fresh supply just received and for sale by JOSEPH BURNETT, No. 33 Tremont Row.

Mch 17—tf

**VACCINE VIRUS**—Physicians in any section of the United States can procure ten quills charged with Pure Vaccine Virus, by return v. mail, on addressing the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, enclosing one dollar, post paid, without which no letter will be taken from the office. Feb. 3.

**NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE.**—The annual Course of Lectures in the New York Medical College, will commence on Monday, the 20th of October, 1851, and continue five months.

**HORACE GREEN, M.D.**, President of the Faculty, and Prof. of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.

**JOHN H. WHITTAKER, M.D.**, Prof. of General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.

**EDWIN HAMILTON DAVIS, M.D.**, Prof. of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

**B. FORDYCE BARKER, M.D.**, Prof. of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children.

**R. OGREN DOREMUS, M.D.**, Prof. of Chemistry.

**JOHN MURRAY CARMICHAEL, M.D.**, Prof. of the Principles and Operations of Surgery with Surgical Pathology.

**EDMUND R. PEARLEE, M.D.**, Prof. of Physiology, Pathology, and Microscopy.

**JOHN GALLAGHER, M.D.**, Demonstrator of Anatomy.

**A. M. EISENLOHR, M.D.**, and WM. B. THOMPSON, M.D., Prosector to the Professor of Surgery.

A preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on Monday the 6th of October, and continue until the commencement of the Regular Course. On the Pathology and Diagnosis of the Diseases of the Respiratory System in Females, by B. F. Barker, M.D. On Toxicological Chemistry, by R. O. Doremus, M.D. On the Surgical Operations of the Eye, by J. M. Carmichael, M.D. On Dental Pathology and Dental Surgery, by C. C. Allen, M.D.

The Preliminary Course will be free to all medical students and medical men. The dissecting rooms will be opened at the beginning of this Course.

The advantages which New York offers for Clinical Study far surpass those of any other city. The Students of this College can have access to the New York Hospital, Belvoir Hospital, the Emancipation Hospital, as well as to the Eye and Ear Infirmary, and the various Dispensaries of the city. A Surgical and a Medical, and an Obstetrical Clinique will be held weekly by the Professors of these departments. Obstetrical cases and subjects for dissection are abundantly furnished for the students.

**Fees**—Matriculation, \$5. Demonstrator's Ticket, \$5. The full course, \$105. For the final examination, \$10.

The candidate for graduation must be of the age of 21 years. He must have studied medicine under a respectable practitioner for three years. He must have attended two full Courses of Lectures, of which one must have been in this College, and he must present to the Faculty a thesis, in his own hand-writing, on some Medical or Surgical subject.

By the charter of the Institution a Graduate of this School can practise his profession in any part of the State without being subject to the annoyance of examinations from Medical Societies.

**R. OGREN DOREMUS, M.D.**,  
Dean of the Faculty,  
New York Medical College,  
East Thirteenth st., near Broadway, 113—apt. N1.

**GENUINE MUSK** in pod; True Russian Castor; Scammony; Gen. Burgundy Pitch; French Iodine; German Quinine; Iodide Potassie; Sugar of Lead, chemically pure; English Croton Oil. Just received by PHILBRICK, CARPENTER & CO., 160 Washington street, Boston. aug 6

**MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS**—Compounded day and night by PHILBRICK, CARPENTER & CO., Dispensers, 160 Washington st., Boston. jy 16

**NITRATE OF SILVER** in crystals, manufactured and sold by PHILBRICK & TRAFTON, Chemists and Druggists, 160 Washington st., Boston. Feb. 12.

**PROTEIN**—Sold by PHILBRICK & TRAFTON. Oct. 18.

**SATURATED TINCTURE OF ENGLISH ACONITE ROOT.** Sold by PHILBRICK & TRAFTON. Nov. 31.

**NEW UTERINE SUPPORTER**—Invented by DR. ROBINSON, and far superior to his improved Pessary—not liable to break nor corrode—small worts with ease, can be applied by the patient, and answering all purposes, where mechanical support is needed. It has been examined, approved and used by many physicians. All are invited to call and examine it.

Sold only by DR. J. H. ROBINSON, wholesale and retail, at 4 Montgomery Place, Boston.

Jan. 22—eplyr

